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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An edible toy for an animal, comprising:
a shell ~~shaped to facilitate~~ for oral interaction with the animal; and
an edible material ~~surrounded by~~ included with the shell that is accessible by the animal over an extended period of time, ~~wherein~~ the toy is consumable in its entirety;
wherein at least one of a shape of the shell or the edible material facilitates stimulation of a cat to interact therewith, the edible material includes catnip, and the shape facilitates prolonged motion of the toy when the toy is set in motion.
2. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 1, wherein the edible material comprises at least one of an inducement, a nutrient, or ~~[[and]]~~ a treatment.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 1, wherein the edible material ~~is~~ can be accessed by at least one of the ~~cat~~ animal biting the shell or ~~[[and]]~~ clawing the shell.
6. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 1, wherein the shell surrounds multiple layers of a plurality of different edible materials.
7. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 6, wherein the multiple layers are formed concentrically about a core material.
8. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 1, wherein the shell includes at least one of an edible nodule or ~~[[and]]~~ a string affixed thereto.

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9. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 1, wherein the shell is compressed to a compression parameter for a particular animal such that a lower compression parameter facilitates easier access to the edible material and a higher compression parameter facilitates more difficult access to the edible material.

10. (Currently Amended) An edible toy for a cat, comprising:
a shell for shaped to facilitate oral interaction with the cat; and
an edible material surrounded by included with the shell that is accessible by the cat over an extended period of time, the edible material comprises a combination of different edible components, wherein the toy is consumable in its entirety.

11. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 10, wherein the shell is formed of two mating pieces that are bonded together about to enclose the edible material.

12. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 10, wherein the edible material moves freely within the shell.

13. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 12, wherein the edible material comprises at least one of a liquid, a gel, a paste, or ~~[[and]]~~ one or more edible objects that move freely within the shell.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 10, wherein the shell includes is a non-~~edible material having~~ one or more holes for releasing ~~that slowly releases~~ edible material therethrough from within ~~inside~~ the shell.

16. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 10, wherein the shell is flexible such that distortion thereof by the cat causes the edible material to be released.

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17. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 10, wherein the shell is refillable with the edible material.

18. (Original) The toy of claim 10 comprises the shell and the edible material that together form a contiguous composition of a single edible material.

19. (Currently Amended) An edible toy for a cat, comprising:
a shell ~~for shaped to facilitate~~ oral interaction with the cat, the shell is comprised of a material that maintains freshness of underlying material and that gradually wears away as the cat interacts orally therewith; and
an edible material that is the underlying material within the shell and accessible by the cat over an extended period of time, wherein the toy is consumable in its entirety.

20. (Currently Amended) The toy of claim 19, wherein the shell is edible, and maintains freshness of the underlying edible material.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of providing an edible toy for an animal, comprising:
providing an edible material;
mixing the edible material into a substantially homogeneous mixture of at least one of an inducement, a nutriment, or a treatment;
forming [an] a shell for housing ~~that houses~~ the edible material; and
inserting the edible material therein.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the edible material includes an inducement that stimulates the animal, which is a cat, to interact therewith.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising compressing at least one of the shell or ~~[[and]]~~ edible material to a compression parameter

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that allows the cat to access the edible material thereof via at least one of licking, biting, or ~~[[and]]~~ clawing.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising mixing the edible material such that a mixture of edible components thereof exhibit a marbling effect.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising forming a hole in the shell such that the edible material can be replaced therethrough.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the shell comprises the edible material.